

# **EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**East Providence School Committee**

**East Providence City Hall - Council Chamber**

**145 Taunton Avenue**

**East Providence, Rhode Island 02914**

**January 12, 2016**

## **Open Session**

**Mr. Tsonos, Chairman, called meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members Present:**

**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence were observed.**

**Motion to set a curfew for School Committee Meeting – Motion by Mr. Cahoon to adjourn no later than 10:30PM, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

## **Student/Staff Recognition**

**Spark Grant Recipients – Orlo Avenue School – Yanaiza Gallant, Principal and teachers recognized for their work in obtaining a grant through the RI Foundation to help third grade classroom teachers engage students through unique experiences and creative learning**

methods, and to stimulate student interest in relevant educational topics.

**Feinstein Grant Recipients – Oldham School, Kent Heights, Martin Middle School – Principals, Donna Peluso, Stephen Prew, Fatima Avila, and Lloydanne Leddy attended and spoke of their appreciation for receiving funds from a Feinstein grant for their respective schools.**

**Thomas Lopes an East Providence High School Senior was recognized for his outstanding athletic talent in football and basketball as reported in a Providence Journal Article on December 26, 2015.**

**Student Liaison Report – William Vanner presented a report on high school events and activities.**

**At the request of Ms. Beauchaine, Mr. Monteiro made a motion to move up Item N on the agenda, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Opportunity Knocks Event on January 14, 2016-Joe/Mike Solitro spoke about 501C3 organization “Opportunity Knocks” current fundraising event for Dillon Carreiro on 1/14/16.**

**Report of Joint Meeting of City Council and School Committee on 1/11/16**

**Mr. Tsonos reported that the City Manager attended the meeting along with School Department personnel to discuss high school building needs and a long range plan, which the schools cannot do without the help of the city; also working with federal and state delegation; school needs corrective action; city will be writing an RFP for a feasibility study to determine what is the best action to move forward; city will pay for it. School Department will get estimates on the cost of immediate work and the Superintendent will seek approval from RIDE for financial assistance reimbursement. Discussion among city personnel as to where the money will come from; they are committed to support but not sure of funding; it was a positive meeting and a good step forward in achieving these goals. Mr. Ferreira – looking legally for allocation of \$1 million from rainy day fund. Mr. Tsonos – Superintendent will check with RIDE regarding financial assistance.**

**Naming of Riverside Middle School Gym for Charles Vermette**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to table, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0**

**PTO/PTA Reports – Kent Heights will be holding a Silent Auction on March 11th at Pinelli's Restaurant. High School still selling bangles and Key chains; Chrissy Rossi – Whiteknact – 1/21/16 CTC Bingo; Playground initiative discussion tonight; put in touch with playground company; will look for funding.**

## **Public Comment I – Agenda Items**

**Mr. Oliver spoke regarding the Chartwells agreement, which reportedly did not hit the profit guarantee; he questioned why the School Committee awarded an additional payment to Chartwells while going to the City Council to ask for money.**

**Mr. Cahoon – motion to move up item L. Public Comment II; non-agenda items, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Mr. Oliver questioned Chartwells issues related to snow days.**

**Linda Dykeman, Finance Director explained that the shorter school year caused a loss in potential sales; schools also started late with the breakfast program.**

**Mr. Oliver questioned why the School Committee first voted to award \$10,000 and then an additional \$5,000 at another meeting.**

**Ms. Beauchaine agreed with what Chartwells said when the motion was first made and assumed it was the whole amount; she then put back on the next agenda; apologized to the Superintendent for that misunderstanding.**

**Mike Kirkutis and Stacy Messier, teachers at Silver Spring School, reported on student programs encouraging respect, responsibility and achievement and a safety program: Responsible Rhode Runners;**

bringing teachers and families together; program emphasizes being on time for school and resulted in excellent attendance and greater achievement at Silver Spring School; families thanked for participating.

Frank Fogarty reported on the Kent Heights PTA after school basketball league and as President of Local 2969, he reported a good first year; thanked the School Committee, Superintendent Crowley and building staff.

Mr. Cahoon requested a move back to Item G: Naming of Riverside Middle School Gym for Charles Vermette - Councilman Timothy Conley respectfully requested consideration of a request to name the gym in honor of Mr. Vermette; he read a letter from Senator William Conley requesting that the School Committee dedicate the basketball court and gym in honor of Mr. Vermette. Motion by Ms. Beauchine to approve, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Mr. Monteiro wished to clarify that it was the gym itself being named. Vote 5-0.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Kathryn Crowley reported that she finished visits to all schools and will block out Fridays to spend time in classrooms; she went to Hennessey last Friday and met with Elaine Allen. Dr. Celeste Bowler is taking charge of elementary and preschool. Superintendent Crowley will be going to Orlo this Friday to meet with the Principals;

she attended an outstanding performance by our band and chorus at the State House; attended a PTO meeting at Kent Heights and had nice discussion with parents; if invited to Parent Group meetings, she will make every attempt to attend a meeting.

Teacher Assistant Pre-Employment Training information was reviewed.

Report on Unified Sports Program – Kathryn Crowley reported that she met with unified sports officials; both middle schools will be involved; sent \$5000 to Unified Sports.

Ms. Beauchaine - Money was donated directly from taxpayers (designated on tax bills) and is being used for middle school sports.

Kathryn Crowley– advocate for coaches; appointing Middle School coach tonight; first meeting on 2/11/16 for coaches; looking to rally troops to sponsor two teams.

Facilities Sub-Committee – Scheduled for 2/8/16 at 6:30PM – lot of issues to discuss there and report out at next School Committee meeting.

School Calendar 2016-2017 Discussion – Kathryn Crowley – presenting a draft for review; will present the calendar again next month; last year there was a conversation about keeping February vacation or not and starting before Labor Day; we will come forward with a calendar with February vacation in it

**Mr. Cahoon– last year, Superintendent Mercer requested that school start before Labor Day, because of the number of snow days; union was willing to start before Labor Day last year.**

**Finance Report – Linda Dykeman presented report for period ending 12/31/15: \$12,000,000 Revenues and Expenditures of \$11,036,629.00.**

**Personnel Report on Resignation/Leaves of Absence/Retirement - Cheryl Sylvia, H/R Director presented:**

**Retirement of Kathleen Caffrey – Principal of Silver Spring School-Effective end of 2015/16 school year**

### **Resignations**

**Beth Burney-Behavior Specialist-Silver Spring-Effective 1/12/16-Contingent upon appointment of Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator-District**

### **Appointments**

**Nicholas Shattuck-Assistant Athletic Director-Middle Schools-Effective 1/13/16**

**Nicole Kraly-Grade 5 Teacher-Kent Heights-Effective 1/13/16-End of 2015-16 School Year**

**Ruth Sanderson-2/5 Social Worker-ELC-Effective 1/14/16**

**Gary Faragalli-Unified Basketball Coach-Martin Middle School-Effective 2015/16 School Year**

**Brian Vierra-Unified Basketball Coach-Riverside Middle School-Effective 2015/16 School Year**

**Dara Pond-Detention Supervisor-Martin Middle School-Effective 1/13/15**

**Beth Burney-Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator-Effective 1/13/16**

**Joseph DaCosta-Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**Maria DosSantos-Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**Hildeberto Fagundes- Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**John Lopes- Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**Michael Poirier- Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**James Watson- Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**Francesca Gomes- Custodian TBD-Effective 1/13/16**

**Anthony Feola-Facilities Director-Effective 1/13/16**

**Mr. Cahoon requested that the meeting should keep to the agenda.**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to move Item K5 Approval of Appointments before item 4 on contracts; switch K5 and K4, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Negotiations Sub-Committee – Kathryn Crowley reported that Mr. Monteiro and Mr. Cahoon will serve on the negotiations committee along with the two assistant Superintendents and Linda Dykeman. She has met with the EPEA President to discuss setting up ground rules and possible dates to meet.**



**Mr. Cahoon said that he would like to make sure there are no conflict of interest issues because his wife is a teacher, currently on leave. The Superintendent will request a legal opinion.**

**Mr. Monteiro – if part of a unit it is fine; this is not an individual contract.**

**Kathryn Crowley announced that she will attend the (AASA) National School Superintendent's Association Conference in Phoenix, Arizona during the February school vacation beginning 2/16/16.**

**PARCC Presentation – Superintendent Crowley said she will look at graduation rates at later date; did not make 95% participation rate; feds have to do something about it; will come out to talk with RIDE; will take responsibility out of district; RIDE will step up leadership with next round of testing; can extract some information from it; she did not think this is a true picture of a student in East Providence; lot more involved than a single test ; put in poverty rate; special education; free and reduced lunch. She thanked the principals for professionalism and leadership.**

**School Principals presented 2015 PARCC results for their respective schools, which included demographics and overall ELA and Math results.**

**Discussion: Ms. Beauchaine – NECAP science given to 8th grade students; were they used for any practical reason; what are we doing**

**with those scores.**

**Kathryn Crowley – will attack NGSS science next year; she will look at those scores for next month will be using good baseline; good question; can show where we are presently; things should be on website; policies and procedures; some required policies; contracts as well; public transparency; easy access to information.**

**Mr. Cahoon – would like to check with legal about putting contracts on line.**

**Principal Shani Wallace, High School related that they do look at those scores, incorporate into classroom; she did discuss that with Joel Swan.**

**Mr. Monteiro – commented that with all hype about PARCC results, he expected worse; commended everyone involved; hen we know what we are doing with it, we will have a better understanding of how results are used.**

**Kathryn Crowley – next month, Dr. Forand and Dr. Bowler will let you know what they have been doing in the district.**

## **Action Items**

**Request for Approval of Funds to support RFP for an analysis of High School Facility – Motion by Mr. Monteiro to table, seconded by Mr.**

**Cahoon. Vote 5-0. JM – thank the city for that; said they will pay for it.**

**Vote to dissolve East Providence Association of School Principals Employment Agreement –**

**Kathryn Crowley – this has been discussed with the Principals; no longer recognized as an organization; she spoke to executive board and with each individual principal; commended the Principals; last in the state to have this type of contract. Motion to approve by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Principals' and Assistant Principals' Employment Contracts:**

**East Providence High School Principal; East Providence High School Assistant Principals (2);**

**East Providence Career and Technical Center, Martin Middle School Principal;**

**Martin Middle School Assistant Principal; Riverside Middle School Principal; Riverside Middle School Assistant Principal**

**M.J. Francis School Principal**

**Hennessey School Principal**

**Kent Heights School Principal**

**Oldham School Principal**

**Orlo Avenue School Principal**

**Silver Spring School Principal**

**Waddington School Principal**

**Whiteknact School Principal**

**Assistant to the Principal at Whiteknact School**

**Principal on Administrative Leave**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Assistant Superintendent(s) and Directors' Employment Contracts**

**Assistant Superintendent**

**Assistant Superintendent**

**Deputy Finance Director**

**Director of Pupil Personnel Services**

**Director of Human Resources**

**Director of Facilities**

**Director of Operations**

**Coordinator of Instructional Technology**

**Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel - Tabled**

**Night Facilities Supervisor**

**Personnel Appointments**

**Kathryn Crowley requested to table the Contract for the Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel.**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to table one item on the Appointment list**

**(Anne Souza), seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0**

**Discussion:**

**Ms. Beauchaine wanted to wait on approval of four contracts and the list of appointments because she had some questions; why not discussed executive session; asked if legal reviewed the contracts. Mr. Silva advised that he received a template; Principals saw template; have had no dialogue.**

**Kathryn Crowley – the H/R Director sent the template to Mr. Silva; the same template used for everyone.**

**Mr. Ferreira – cannot support Facilities Director position because he has questions about it; he will not vote on it; why not executive session.**

**Mr. Tsonos – is there a motion to reverse Items 4 and 5?**

**Mr. Silva – cannot do that; past practice that executive session noticed and advertised sometimes at beginning or end of meeting; has to be part of the agenda; nothing that says School Committee cannot discuss personnel matters in public; discussion in an open meeting and voting in public; because it was not advertised, he suggested to defer things or vote on and discuss.**

**Mr. Monteiro - we did have executive session last week and**

**discussed contracts; Ms. Beauchaine can request a recess, ask her questions, and then come back to the meeting.**

**Mr. Ferreira - attorney was not there if he had questions; Mr. Silva at disadvantage; whatever happens in executive session stays in executive session; cannot be discussed, minutes were sealed**

**Mr. Tsonos – can we get consensus of School Committee; accomplish what we can tonight.**

**Ms. Beauchaine – list in front of us to appoint; motion to appoint original list all but one; approve list minus Director of Facilities, seconded by Mr. Ferreira;**

**Mr. Cahoon - voted Principals' Contract 5-0; discussion – to not support person on the list.**

**Item K5 Personnel Appointments – approve all; Mr. Cahoon to amend approval; re- read names on personnel appointment list, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Roll Call vote: Ms. Beauchaine, aye, Mr. Cahoon, aye; Mr. Ferreira, aye; Mr. Monteiro, aye; Mr. Tsonos, aye.**

**Item #K4 Approval of Assistant Superintendent(s) and Directors' Employment Contracts:**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve contract of two (2) Assistant**

**Superintendents, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve contract of Deputy Finance Director, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the contract of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the contract of the Director of Operations, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the contract of the Coordinator of Instructional Technology, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0. (Kathryn Crowley requested a change to year round employment and it was accepted).**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the contract of the Night Facilities Supervisor, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the appointment of the Director of Facilities; Kathryn Crowley noted this is a one year contract with evaluation at the end of the contract; no concerns with one year position;**

**Mr. Cahoon confirmed that this was the recommendation of Superintendent Crowley;**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the one year contract of the Director of Facilities, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Kathryn Crowley noted Facilities and Security with reorganizing and appointment of an assistant at new meeting; Roll call vote: Ms. Beauchaine, nay; Mr. Cahoon, aye; Mr. Ferreira, nay; Mr. Monteiro, aye; Mr. Tsonos, aye. Discussion: Mr. Tsonos noted these appointments are the recommendation of the Superintendent. Vote 3-2 to approve.**

**Approval of Coastline Employee Assistant Service Agreement – Cheryl Sylvia, H/R Director explained the reinstatement of this program; we are required by state to have a program; checked other districts and they are using Coastline; contract in packet for consideration later.**

**6) Coastline agreement - \$12,000 contract per year; cancelled by former H/R Director; this is a referral for employees and their families; Superintendent noted that we sometimes recommend employees to the program related to disciplinary actions.**

**Motion to approve by Ms. Beauchaine to approve, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of School Committee Minutes for meetings held on: 10/26/15, 11/10/15, 11/16/15, 11/24/15, 12/8/15 and Facilities Sub-Committee Meetings held on 11/4/15 and 11/30/15 – Motion to**



**approve by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

## **Requisitions – Bill List**

### **Warrant #**

**1574 12/16/15 \$ 1,998.14**

**1576 12/16/15 \$ 7,138.00**

**1579 12/21/15 \$ 88,705.45**

**1580 12/22/15 \$ 1,674.00**

**1581 12/29/15 ` \$ 819,302.50**

**1582 1/7/16 \$ 792.12**

**1583 1/7/16 \$1,546,407.43**

**1584 1/7/16 \$ 124,536.28**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Cahoon, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**(Mr. Cahoon requested Lifespan for first quarter break out; one quarter this year vs. last; what impact of costs associated with the therapeutic wing).**

**Construction Payment Request dated 1/12/16 - Presented by Linda Dykeman.**

**SBS 14320 \$ 1039.00**

**Duarte Corp. 5 \$64,731.94**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote**

**5-0.**

**Mr. Cahoon questioned the contract rates of SMMA architects; did they have MPA established contract rates, if so, not on the invoice; he would like to know the basis for paying their rates before we pay these invoices. Motion by Mr. Cahoon to defer SMMA Invoices 44070 and 44071 pending receipt of that information, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Retrofit of remaining HVAC System – Martin Middle School and Approval of Retrofit of remaining HVAC System – Whiteknact School at the approval of Linda Dykeman; work not completed when Johnson Control was here; ATC does excellent work in the district;**

**Mr. Monteiro asked why it was not finished;**

**Mr. Feola explained that Martin Middle School had two systems; old piece which has since passed and we do not have controls on the system; only a portion of the work was done; Johnson Controls only had so much money; they completed what was in their scope of work. Mr. Cahoon noted this was a sole source**

**Mr. Feola – ATC representative for this area; he contacted Boston and they said go through RI.**

**Ms. Beauchaine noted the date on the bid was 4/6/15 which is not current; will they guarantee the amount of the bid now.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to defer contracts until updated; then retracted the motion.**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to approve Whiteknact project @ \$50,400, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine.**

**Vote 5-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to award the contract to ATC for MMS, not to exceed \$228,400, seconded by Mr. Cahoon (expecting to receive an update) Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Bid for Doors at Career/Technical Center – Linda Dykeman recommended New England School Services;**

**Discussion regarding lower price; Mr. Feola – compared exact same two – better glass panels on sides;**

**Mr. Cahoon noted lower price item not acceptable.**

**Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve New England School Services, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Bid for Concrete Sidewalk Repairs at Martin Middle School – Kathryn Crowley stated that this is a safety issue and we need to patch.**

**Discussion:**

**Mr. Ferreira questioned \$3-4,000 to repair front of the building; what does repair mean?**

**Mr. Feola – repairing a portion of it; cutting out 1600 feet and replacing it;**

**Mr. Ferreira – that is not a repair; for \$18,000 we can patch our serious problems; he will hire a company for \$16,000 to replace all in district; Orlo is worse than Martin.**

**Mr. Feola would like to bring proposal to the School Committee to plan for summer work.**

**Mr. Ferreira would like to meet with Mr. Feola to fix over the next couple of weeks; even if we send our guys to patch it.**

**Motion by Mr. Monteiro to award the bid to Duarte for the Martin Middle sidewalk, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.**

**Mr. Tsonos noted that there was discussion at last night's meeting about a new five year plan new; Facilities Subcommittee to update that plan. Mr. Cahoon to update with all Fire Marshall Requirements.**

**Public Comment II – Non Agenda Items – Diana Clarkin – Kindergarten registration information on the website.**

**Old Business**

**School Department Policy on Naloxone – Second Passage - Motion to approve by Mr. Cahoon, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.**

**Update on Response from City regarding \$224K reimbursement from RIDE – Kathryn Crowley – School Committee asked for a decision in writing; response was that because it was a bond; the city put up the money; it was not School Department money.**

**Mr. Monteiro - should look at RIDE reimbursement project; some approved by RIDE, paid for bond city funds; School Department capital funds would come back to us; bond does not; asked to use \$224,000 on behalf of voters; pay down bond or multiply value by putting toward more projects; bond by city of East Providence taxpayers, but the city decided to put those funds in the general fund; bad enough not to fund the School Department, but to keep money not driven by city revenue; he requested that we put an update on the agenda regarding what reimbursement we received. Linda Dykeman noted that was 2015.**

**Mr. Monteiro - plan was to put reimbursement back into capital.**

**Mr. Cahoon – schools can turn into reimbursable money, city cannot.**

**Mr. Monteiro – taxpayers agreed on bond; increased value high jacked; should give to taxpayers to pay down bond.**

**Mrs. Rossi – any reimbursement from \$15 million; Linda Dykeman will get that information.**

**Motion to adjourn by Mr. Cahoon, Seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0. 10:30PM**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant**

**Nathan Cahoon, Clerk of the Committee**